

COVID Updated Protocols

8-6-2021

These are fluid and may change as conditions change.

A school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having COVID-19 (25 Tex. Admin. Code § 97.7). Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met. The readmission criteria for COVID-19 is as follows:

If symptomatic, exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free, and other symptoms have improved. Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested.*

**Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (37.8° Celsius) or higher.*

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the conditions for re-entry are met. Please notify the school through our **Covid Hotline at 903-380-7282**. Please leave your child's name and your phone number. Someone from the school will return your call.

Parents will be notified if a student in their child's class tests positive for Covid.

Entire campus will be notified upon the 3rd positive case within a week.

If teacher/staff/student test positive, before returning must be:

- Out 10 days from start of symptoms and 24 hours fever free **OR**
- Negative Covid test at 7 days or more from original positive test, **OR**
- Per doctor's order

If teacher/staff is directly exposed

- If vaccinated, monitor for symptoms and return to school
- If unvaccinated, monitor for symptoms and return wearing KN95 mask until 10 days symptom free **OR** stay home and return after a negative Covid test 3-5 days or more after exposure.
- If develop symptoms, follow Covid return protocol --may return to school:
 - 10 days from start of symptoms and 24 hours fever free **OR**
 - Negative Covid test after 3-5 days or more of initial symptoms **OR**
 - Per doctor's order

If student is directly exposed:

- If vaccinated, monitor for symptoms and return to school
- If unvaccinated, monitor for symptoms and return wearing mask until 10 days symptom free **OR** stay home and return after a negative Covid test 3-5 days or more after exposure.
- If develop symptoms, follow Covid return protocol --may return to school:
 - 10 days from start of symptoms and 24 hours fever free **OR**
 - Negative Covid test after 3-5 days or more of initial symptoms **OR**
 - Per doctor's order

If Teacher/Staff/Student is sent home by nurse for exhibiting multiple symptoms of Covid-19 they must follow return to school protocol before returning to school:

- Be 24-hour fever free without the aid of fever reducing medicine **AND**
- Bring a doctor's release showing alternative diagnosis **OR**
- Set up appointment with school nurse before school to be re-evaluated

In order to promote safety at school, it is highly recommended that all eligible students and staff receive the age appropriate COVID-19 vaccine. All unvaccinated students--especially under age 12-- stay 3 feet apart and students use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting classrooms and buses.

During the exclusion period when students are out due to Covid-19 or close contact, the school system **may** deliver remote instruction consistent with the practice of remote conferencing outlined in the proposed *Student Attendance Accounting Handbook* (SAAH) rules.

These two requirements must be met:

- The student is unable to attend school because of a temporary medical condition.
- The total amount of remote conferencing instruction **does not exceed** more than 20 instructional days over the entirety of the school year.

In addition, one of the following requirements also must be met:

- The student's temporary medical condition is documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States. The documentation must include a statement from the physician that the student is to remain confined to their home or to a hospital.
- The student has a positive test result for a communicable condition listed in 25 TAC §97.7.
- The student has been identified as having been in close contact with COVID-19.

Students participating through remote conferencing will generate attendance according to the two-through-four-hour rule and based on whether the student is virtually "present" at the official attendance-taking time. Instruction must be provided synchronously, which means two-way, real-time/live virtual instruction between teachers and students. The instruction cannot be concurrent, which means remote students must not be taught by a teacher who is also teaching in-person students at the same time.

Schools cannot provide concurrent instruction during remote conferencing. The individual providing remote conferencing instruction must meet the certification requirements to teach the content area. Schools may also utilize substitute teachers to provide this instruction, as long as they are following local policies for substitute teachers and meeting all parent notification requirements as provided in TEC, §21.057.